



## Opinion 539

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**Opinion Title:** 10/12/2010 PUBLISHED In re Woolsey, Case No. 10-25893, Judge Thurman.

**Body:** A plan proposed by chapter 13 debtors did not contain language permitting the retention of a wholly unsecured creditor's lien or requiring the reinstatement of the lien in the event of dismissal or conversion to a chapter 7 case. The Court found that *Dewsnup v. Timm*, 502 U.S. 410 (1992), prohibited avoiding the lien under 11 U.S.C. § 506(d) as argued by the debtors. Although the only collateral for the loan was the debtors' principal residence, because the loan was wholly unsecured, modification was not prohibited by 11 U.S.C. § 1322(b)(2). See *Griffey v. U.S. Bank (In re Griffey)*, 335 B.R. 166 (10th Cir. B.A.P. 2005); *Pierce v. Beneficial Mortgage Co. (In re Pierce)*, 282 B.R. 26 (Bankr. D. Utah 2002). Thus the rights of the creditor could be modified under 11 U.S.C. § 1322(b)(2) as long as the debtors' plan complied with the provisions of 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(5). The Court found further support for its position in the statistics showing the number of cases commenced under chapter 13 that are either dismissed or converted that could become a source of easily disguised bad faith filings.

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**Judge:** [Judge William T. Thurman](#) [2]

**Date:** Tuesday, October 12, 2010

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